

PATENT
Atty. Dkt. No. LCNT/121494
Serial No. 09/811,911
Page 7 of 9

REMARKS

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Restriction Requirement mailed March 23, 2006, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on April 23, 2006.

Claims 1-23 are pending in the application and are subject to restriction and/or election requirement. The claims have been restricted under 35 U.S.C. §121 as follows:

I. Claims 1-11, drawn to a method, comprising: storing, in at least one database within a portable first computing device, financial transaction data and budgetary data; evaluating said transaction data using said budgetary data to determine at least whether a transaction value exceeds a budgetary constraint; displaying, upon a display device, a message indicative of the results of said evaluation; and periodically synchronizing said at least one database of said portable computing device with at least one corresponding database within a second computing device, each of said first and second computing devices cooperating to track expenditures associated with at least one budgetary item, classified in class 705, subclass 35.

II. Claims 12-16, drawn to a method for managing financial outlays of a plurality of transacting entities, each of said transacting entities having associated with it a respective computing device, each of said computing devices including a respective central processing unit, input device, display device and memory, each memory storing at least a transactions database including data relating to financial transactions and a budgetary database including data relating to budgetary constraints applicable to a plurality of transaction types, said method comprising: storing, in the transactions database associated with each transacting entity, respective transaction information provided via said respective input device; evaluating said respective transaction information using respective budgetary database information; and displaying, on said respective computing device display, information pertaining to said evaluation; said computing devices being periodically synchronized such that a uniform transactions databases and budgetary databases are updated among said computing devices, said computing devices cooperating to track expenditures associated with at least one budgetary item, classified in class 705, subclass 35.

452398-1

PATENT
Atty. Dkt. No. LCNT/121494
Serial No. 09/811,911
Page 8 of 9

III. Claims 17-22, drawn to a system for managing financial information, comprising: a plurality of portable computing devices, each of said portable computing devices comprising a central processing unit, an input device and memory, each respective memory including at least a transactions database for storing data relating to financial transactions and a budgetary database for storing data relating to budgetary constraints applicable to a plurality of transaction types, wherein; one of said computing devices operates as a master device and further includes within its memory an accounts database for storing data relating to accessible financial accounts; at least two of said computing devices being periodically synchronized via a communications link therebetween such that their respective transactions and budgetary databases are updated to include data input via any one of the synchronized computing devices, classified in class 705, subclass 35.

IV. Claim 23, drawn to a financial management apparatus, comprising: at least one portable computing device for storing financial transaction data and budgetary data, and for receiving and evaluating new financial transaction data according to constraints defined using said budgetary data; and a docking station, for receiving said at least one portable computing device and synchronizing financial transaction data and budgetary data within said at least one portable computing device to financial transaction data and budgetary data stored in a second computing device communicating with said docking station, classified in class 705, subclass 35.

Applicants provisionally elect the claims of Group I with traverse.

To the extent this restriction requirement is maintained by the Examiner, Applicants reserve the right to subsequently file a divisional application in order to prosecute the invention recited in the non-elected group(s) of claims.

As such and because of the above traversal, Applicants respectfully submit that the Right of Petition under 37 CFR §1.144 has been preserved.

CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that all claims presently pending in this application are in condition for allowance. If however, the Examiner believes that there are any unresolved issues requiring adverse final action in any of the claims now pending in the application, it is requested that the

452398-1

PATENT
Any. Dkt. No. LCNT/121494
Serial No. 09/811,911
Page 9 of 9

Examiner telephone Eamon J. Wall at (732) 530-9404 so that appropriate arrangements can be made for resolving such issues as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

3/31/06

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